

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 04889 01 OF 02 161942Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 H-01 OIC-02
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /064 W
-----115698 162020Z /70

O 161859Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1593
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO JCS WASHDC
FPA WASHDC
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 04889

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT HILEX-8 REPORT

REFS: (A) USNATO 3228 DTG 291849Z MAR 78, NOTAL,
(B) STATE 82618 DTG 310116Z MAR 78, NOTAL,
(C) USNATO 4597 DTG 081839Z MAY 78, NOTAL.

-

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS USNATO COMMENTS ON THE
DRAFT HILEX-8 REPORT EXCEPT THAT PORTION DEALING WITH CEP
PLAY. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 3. END SUMMARY.

1. AS PROMISED REF C, THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 2 BELOW OUR
COMMENTS (EXCEPT ON MATERIAL PERTAINING TO CEP PLAY,
WHICH WILL FOLLOW) ON AC/237-WP/129. WE HAVE POUCHED AND
DACOMED COPIES OF THIS REPORT TO WASHINGTON ON MAY 8, 1978.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY COB FRIDAY,
MAY 19, SO THAT WE CAN CIRCULATE PROPOSED CHANGES BEFORE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USNATO 04889 01 OF 02 161942Z

THE COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES COMMITTEE (COEC)
MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 23.

2. USNATO ASSESSMENT: IN GENERAL, THE COEC STAFF HAS
DONE JOURNEYMAN WORK IN TURNING OUT THE FIRST DRAFT OF
THE HILEX-8 REPORT. BY PROVIDING OUR VIEWS TO THE DRAFT-
ERS, BOTH FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY, MOST US CONCERNS, AS

REFLECTED IN REFS A AND B, ARE RECOGNIZED IN THE PAPER.
OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISION, KEYED TO THE APPLICABLE
PARAS OF AC/237-WP/129, FOLLOW:

3. A. PARA 9: THIS PARA, AS WRITTEN, IMPLIES THAT THE
POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING PROCESS, AS SYMBOLIZED BY DPC
PROCEEDINGS, IS UNREASONABLY SLOW. IN OUR OPINION (SEE
PARA 1, REF A), A CASE CAN BE MADE THAT AT LEAST THREE
DPC DECISIONS DURING HILEX-8 WERE PREMATURE UNDER THE
PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES AND WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN TAKEN
EXCEPT FOR STRONG MILITARY PRESSURE. WE PROPOSE THAT THE
SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 9 BE REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING:

"THIS ARTIFICIALITY MAY HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE OF SOME DELAYS
IN COLLECTIVE DECISION-MAKING. HOWEVER, IT MUST BE RECOG-
NIZED THAT THE HILEX SERIES IS A CRISIS MANAGEMENT EXER-
CISE INTENDED TO EMPHASIZE POLITICAL AS OPPOSED TO MILI-
TARY PLAY AND TAILORED PRIMARILY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE
DPC AND SUPPORTING STAFFS. IN THIS REGARD, RELENTLESS
PRESSURE TO SPEED UP THE PACE OF THE EXERCISE IS COUNTER-
PRODUCTIVE IN THAT THE TRAINING VALUE OF THE EXERCISE FOR
THE DPC AND THOSE SUPPORTING STAFFS IS THEREBY GREATLY
REDUCED."

IN THE SAME VEIN, WE RECOMMEND ADDING THE FOLLOWING CON-
CLUDING SENTENCE:

"ALSO, UNREALISTIC REAL WORLD EXPECTATIONS MAY BE ENGEN-
DERED BY ARTIFICIALLY COMPRESSING THE TIME REQUIRED FOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USNATO 04889 01 OF 02 161942Z

CERTAIN HIGHLY SENSITIVE DECISIONS IN EXERCISE SITUATIONS"

. B. PARA 14: THE REVISED BRIEFING PROCEDURE DID SAVE
CONSIDERABLE TIME. HOWEVER, IN SOME CASES, THE CIG SUM-
MARY DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME TO BE REVIEWED BEFORE THE DPC
MEETING. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING ADDITION
AFTER THE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF THIS PARA:

"UNFORTUNATELY, IN SOME CASES, THE CIG SUMMARY DID NOT
ARRIVE IN TIME TO BE REVIEWED BEFORE THE DPC MEETING,
THEREBY LEAVING A GAP BETWEEN DELEGATION PRE-BRIEFINGS AND
THE IMS UPDATE."

. C. PARA 15: SEATING AT EXERCISE DPC MEETINGS HAS
ALWAYS BEEN A PROBLEM. AS THE LARGEST NATO DELEGATION AND
AVID EXERCISE PLAYERS ALL, USNATO SELDOM GETS AWAY WITH
SEAT POACHING. THIS IS BECAUSE WE ARE SANDWICHED BETWEEN
THE IS/IMS AND THE UK DELEGATION AND IN SPITE OF THE FACT
THAT THERE ARE ALMOST ALWAYS MANY EMPTY SEATS ELSEWHERE IN
THE ROOM. WE THEREFORE ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE
NUANCES HERE AND PROPOSE ADDING A CONCLUDING SENTENCE:
"IT HAS ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED THAT -- IN ORDER TO ENHANCE
THE TRAINING VALUE OF THE EXERCISE -- EXTRA SEATING BE

PROVIDED IN THE PRESENTATION ROOM DURING EXERCISES TO THE
MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE AND ANY SEATING ALLOCATED BUT NOT
REQUIRED BE RETURNED TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR
REALLOCATION TO DELEGATIONS DESIRING ADDITIONAL PLACES."

. D. PARA 23: OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE ALERTS SYSTEM
COMPUTER PRINTOUTS (SEE PARA 6, REF A) DURING HILEX-8
LED US TO SUGGEST THAT A MANUAL RECORD BE KEPT, PREFERABLY
WHERE THE COMPUTER PROGRAM IS UPDATED, IN THE EVENT OF
COMPUTER FAILURE. THIS SUGGESTION HAS BEEN RESISTED BY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 04889 02 OF 02 161943Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 H-01 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /062 W

-----115753 162021Z /70

O 161859Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USNATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1594

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO JCS WASHDC

FPA WASHDC

USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USNMR SHAPE BE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USNATO 04889

THE DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.
HOWEVER, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH A SYSTEM IS
NECESSARY, PARTICULARLY AS WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT THERE
IS NO ALTERNATE EMERGENCY POWER SOURCE FOR THE NATO COM-
PUTER. WE HAVE ALSO RECENTLY LEARNED THAT THE COMPUTER
PRINTOUTS TECHNICALLY CANNOT BE REMOVED FROM THE SITCEN
AREA, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE THEY ARE UNCONTROLLED NATO SECRET
DOCUMENTS. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE ADDING THE FOLLOWING
SENTENCE BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND SENTENCES OF THIS
PARA:

"HOWEVER, THIS OUTAGE POINTS UP THE NEED FOR A MANUAL
SYSTEM WHICH COULD BE IMPLEMENTED AND EMPLOYED ON SHORT
NOTICE IN THE EVENT OF A MORE SERIOUS OUTAGE, THE LATTER
BEING OF PARTICULAR CONCERN IN THAT THE NATO HQS COMPUTER

SUPPORTING THE ALERTS COMMITTEE IS ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON COMMERCIAL POWER AND HAS NO EMERGENCY BACKUP. ALSO, THE SECURITY RESTRICTIONS WHICH PREVENT REMOVAL OF THE COMPUTER PRINTOUTS FROM THE SITCEN AREA GREATLY LIMIT THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USNATO 04889 02 OF 02 161943Z

VALUE OF THESE PRINTOUTS TO DELEGATIONS, AND PROCEDURES MUST BE DEVELOPED TO ALLOW THESE PRINTOUTS TO BE USED IN DELEGATION OPERATIONS ROOMS."

. E. PARA 28: WHILE THE LAST THREE SENTENCES OF THIS PARA ARE VAGUE (PARTICULARLY THE PHRASE "OTHERS APPEARED TO MISUNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM"), WE SUSPECT THE AUTHOR TENDS TO FAVOR INSTANTANEOUS, UNQUESTIONING APPROVAL OF ALL MNC ALERT REQUESTS. WE INTEND TO ASK FOR EXPLICATION OF THE LANGUAGE AT THE COEC MEETING AND, PRESUMABLY SUGGEST APPROPRIATE MODIFICATIONS. WE, THEREFORE, SUGGEST FLEXIBILITY ON THIS PARA, ALLOWING US TO REQUEST EXPANSION, DELETION, AND/OR MODIFICATION OF THESE SENTENCES DEPENDING ON THE CLARIFICATION PROVIDED.

3. THE QUESTION OF TIMING OF EXERCISES IS NOT COVERED IN THE REPORT. GIVEN OUR PRESENT SENSING OF THE MOOD AT NATO HQS, WE DO NOT WANT TO PRESS THIS ISSUE AT THIS MOMENT. HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO ADD A PARA "13 BIS" ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "AS ALWAYS HAS BEEN THE CASE, OTHER BUSINESS, E.G., THE CCMS PLENARY SESSION, MARCH 14-15, ETC., PREVENTED UNDIVIDED ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO HILEX-8. IN THIS REGARD, WE SHOULD EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF HOLDING FUTURE NATO HQS EXERCISES IN LATE JUNE."

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY COB MAY 19, 1978.BENNETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, EMERGENCY PLANNING, HILEX-8, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO04889
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780206-1186
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780552/aaaabrzn.tel
Line Count: 207
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 74353e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USNATO 3228, 78 STATE 82618, 78 USNATO 4597
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2672700
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT HILEX-8 REPORT
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/74353e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014